

RARITAN VALLEY ARTS ASSOCIATION

ESTABLISHED 1939

March 2006 Newsletter

President: Linda Arnold
Newsletter: Diana Patton

497 Stony Brook Drive
Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Top O' the Season Greetings, you cheeky little leprechauns!

What a wonderful wild winter we're having! Such variations in temperature and precipitation! We're never bored! And you will be very happy to come to our next meeting, March 20, 7:30 pm at the Somerset County Library, when we will have award-winning oil painter John Reilly. John has a special surprise for us; he will paint the portrait of someone in the audience. He is looking to paint someone who perhaps stands out a bit—perhaps eccentric dress, be it male or female, perhaps a standout hairdo and glasses, who knows? John is looking for an interesting appearance and you might just be the person to be painted. Think about it; wouldn't you like to be immortalized? Our refreshment hostesses will be Kit Bebbington and Christa Holtz. RVAA thanks them and also Program Chairwoman Gay Billich for providing our program.

At our last meeting RVAA member JOAN MCKINNEY stepped up to the plate at the last moment when Frank Zuccarelli was suddenly unable to come. Joan worked on a delightful blossom-bedecked cottage as well as on an abstract with some new textures to show us, and she hit a home run. Thank you, Joan! And we sincerely hope that Frank is recuperating well.

DEBBIE HUGHES will again run the annual RVAA BIG APPLE TRIP. On Saturday, April 29th you simply must join us on our famous bus trip to New York City and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, finishing up at the Salmagundi Club to view the American Watercolor Society Show. We meet Saturday, April 29th, at 8:15 am (leaving 8:30 sharp), upper parking lot of the Somerset County Library (Vo-Tech School is there); and we are bussed (in a comfortable bus with a bathroom) to both places (although you may remain at the Met all day and will be picked up there if you don't care to see the AWS Exhibit). Debbie even has snacks on the way home, since it will be about 6 pm or so when we come back. All this for \$25! Please make your check out to RVAA and mail to Debbie Hughes, 255 Falmouth Place, Bridgewater, NJ 08807. If you need more info, her phone is 908/725-4639. Believe me, this is a trip you do not want to miss. We always have a great time! Be there or be square. FYI: the famed Queen Hatshepsut Egyptian exhibit is one of the special shows at the Met.

A SPECIAL OCCASION

will be Raritan Valley Arts Association's wonderful exhibit at the Jewish Community Center right on Talamini Road in Bridgewater. They will provide full color invitation postcards and a reception. And it's a well-lit gallery area. Oops! Oh, that's right—we can't have this show unless someone comes forward to chair it. There won't be much work as the Center will do most of it. Any takers? Please call President Linda Arnold 908/647-3610 to volunteer.

Challenges and Opportunities

6TH ANNUAL JURIED SHOW AT THE BERNARDSVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY in April. Receiving is Thurs. April 6th, pickup of those not selected is April 7th; those selected will be picked up April 29th. The fee is \$10. Please call Kathleen Palmer at 908/766-1576 to receive your prospectus.

From RVAA Member Kit Bebbington we have the following: On Saturday, May 20th: Trinity United Church, Warren will have its Third Annual Art Show and Sale. Members are invited to display and sell their art work. Please call or email Kit Bebbington for details. phone 732 356-3730 email: kitlink@verizon.net

On Sunday, September 10th Warren Township will be celebrating its Bicentennial (1806-2006) with a Parade, an Antique Car Show and an Art Show at the Municipal Grounds. If you've ever lived, worked, or passed through Warren Township, you will have noticed the beautiful, pastoral settings. And, if you happen to be an artist, you may have painted one or more of these beautiful scenes. You might consider entering the show. Please call or email Kit Bebbington for an entry form and more information. Phone: 732 356-3730 Email: kitlink@verizon.net .

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

DOUG AXMANN has a one-man show of his oil paintings, sponsored by the Township of Hanover Cultural Art Committee, in the Hanover Township Municipal Building, 1000 Route 10, Whippany, during the months of March and April.

GAY BILLICH had her work accepted into the Montgomery Center for the Arts 1860 House Annual Open Juried Exhibition February 10-March 12. Gay also has two paintings at Overlook Hospital, Summit with M-Shac, February 5—April 1, with the Millburn-Short Hills Art Center.

ALKA DALAL had an exhibition of her series “Painting for Peace” in the Jain Center, Queens, New York, for the months of November and December 2005. She had 27 of her paintings in watercolor, oil, acrylic, and monoprint mixed media. Several newspapers covered her exhibition with photos, including the Courier News. Alka is a certified instructor for One-Stroke decorative painting.

Bridgewater Township Creative Arts Council’s Exhibition is currently in the Bridgewater Municipal Building, Garretson Road, until March 31st. RVAA members in this group exhibit include Pat Barnabeo, Sherry Engelberg, Susan Furey, Sylvia Glesmann, Mary Lou Guididas, Rita Gorky, Nina Guerriero, Joan McKinney, Geri Oldman, Diana Patton, Doris Peck, Christiane Silla, Ron Tolles, and Florence White. The Awards Reception will be Sunday, March 26, from 1-5.

The Somerset Art Association’s Floral Show is being continued at National Starch for the month of March. RVAA members in the Floral Show include (as far as your editor knows) Kathy Blair, Geraldine Cosgrove, Rae Hoffman, Diana Patton, and Dorothy Varrone.

PLEASE SEND ME YOUR NEWS; we all want to hear from YOU!